



**Missouri State Society Daughters of the American Revolution  
Patriot of the Month  
June 2013**



**William Haughawout**  
Sponsored by:  
**Rhoda Fairchild Chapter DAR**

William (Bill) Haughawout was born in Carthage, Missouri, on May 3, 1922. He graduated from Carthage High School in 1940. and Joplin Junior College in 1942. Bill enlisted in the Navy in September 1942, and was sent to San Diego, California, for boot camp. Later, he was sent to Norman, Oklahoma, to attend Aviation Ordinance School. After graduation from Ordinance School, he volunteered to train at a Naval Aerial Gunnery School at Purcell, Oklahoma. His next assignment was to embark on the aircraft carrier USS Croatan where he, as crew chief, and his men installed bombs in torpedo bombers, and ammunition in the wing machine guns of fighter planes.

The USS Croatan was assigned to convoy escort duty, air patrols, and antisubmarine duty (to hunt down and destroy enemy submarines) in the European theater of operations. During this time the USS Croatan escorted President Roosevelt to the Yalta Conference. One successful search and destroy patrol took place along the Normandy coast in June 1944. A German submarine was found, forced to surface, evacuated 60 survivors, then scuttled the sub.

Awards and medals earned were the Victory Medal, Battle Star European Theater of Operations, Battle Star American Area, and the Good Conduct Medal.

Bill received an honorable discharge on December 1, 1945, with the rank of Aviation Ordinance 1<sup>st</sup> Class. He arrived home on Christmas Eve, 1945. Bill went to work in his father's business, Uke's Tire and Sporting Goods in Carthage. He married Bonnie Sue Clark on December 21, 1947. They were married 55 years when Bonnie Sue passed away in February 2002. They have two daughters and two granddaughters.

Bill is a member of the Grace Episcopal Church and has been active in the community as President of the Rotary Club, the Parks Board, the Historic Preservation Society, the YMCA Board, and Vice President of the Chamber of Commerce. He is currently a life member of the VFW and the NRA. His long time hobbies have been skeet shooting, hunting, fishing, and scrapbooking.

The members of the Rhoda Fairchild Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution wish to extend heartfelt gratitude and respect to Bill Haughawout for his service to our Country during World War II.